

*Patent Application No. 09/874,478
Amendment dated January 5, 2003
Reply to Office Action of October 03, 2003
Docket No. 00/076 VDE*

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

- 1.(currently amended) An aqueous amino resin composition comprising amino resins A, formaldehyde-binding additives (auxiliaries) B, wherein the formaldehyde-binding auxiliaries B are selected from the group consisting of mixtures B1 of organic amides B11 having up to 10 carbon atoms and from one to four nitrogen atoms, attached in amidelike or imidelike manner, and polyhydroxyl compounds B12 selected from the group consisting of aliphatic linear and branched compounds B121 having from 2 to 6 hydroxyl groups and 1 to 10 carbon atoms, monosaccharides B122 having up to 6 carbon atoms, and disaccharides B123 having up to 12 carbon atoms, and, if desired, water-soluble or water-dispersible, hydroxyl group-containing urethane compounds B13 which if desired comprise hydroxyl-containing polyurethanes B13, if desired, acrylic resins C in the form of aqueous dispersions, and water, with the proviso that the presence of at least one of the components B13 and C in the composition is mandatory where if the component B consists only of at least one organic hydroxyl compound which is soluble in water or in a monohydric alcohol having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, and which is selected from dihydric, trihydric and pentahydric alcohols containing

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up to 6 carbon atoms, pentaerythritol and sorbitol, monosaccharides containing up to 6 carbon atoms, disaccharides containing up to 12 carbon atoms, polysaccharides having an Ostwald viscosity of up to 200 mPa·s at 25 °C and a concentration corresponding to 37 % refraction, monohydric and polyhydric aromatic alcohols containing only one benzene ring, and monohydric and polyhydric phenols, and of at least one amide which is soluble in water ~~where~~ or a monohydric alcohol having 1 to 4 carbon atoms and which is selected from aliphatic amides containing up to 6 carbon atoms and aromatic amides containing only one benzene ring.

2.(original)

The aqueous amino resin composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the amino resins A are water-soluble melamine resins, urea resins or melamine-urea cocondensates which are etherified with C₁ to C₄ alcohols.

3.(original)

The aqueous amino resin composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the amino resins A are methanol-etherified melamine resins or melamine/urea resins having an amount-of-substance ratio (molar ratio) of melamine to urea to formaldehyde to methanol of 1 mol: (0 to 2 mol):(1.8 to 5.8 mol):(0.8 to 5.5 mol).

4.(original)

The aqueous amino resin composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ratio of the mass of component B to the mass of the amino resin A in the mixture is from 1 to 30:100.

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5.(canceled)

6.(currently amended)

The aqueous amino resin composition as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 5~~, wherein the urethane compounds **B13** are of low ~~molecular~~ molar mass, having ~~an above-average a number-average~~ molar mass M_n of from 150 to 5000 g/mol, and contain hydrophilic groups.

7.(original)

The aqueous amino resin composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein formaldehyde-binding auxiliaries **B** used comprise the components **B2**, which are obtainable by reacting polyhydroxyl compounds **B21** selected from aliphatic linear and branched compounds **B121** having from 2 to 6 hydroxyl groups and 1 to 10 carbon atoms, monosaccharides **B122** having up to 6 carbon atoms, and disaccharides **B123** having up to 12 carbon atoms, and also aliphatic aliphatic polyhydroxy amines **B211** having from 2 to 6 hydroxyl groups and 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms, attached in an aminelike manner, per molecule, and containing no free amine-type hydrogen atoms, with monofunctional or polyfunctional aliphatic, cycloaliphatic or aromatic isocyanates **B22**.

8.(original)

The aqueous amino resin composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the acrylic resins **C** are aqueous dispersions of an acrylic copolymer in water, the parent monomer mixture containing more than 50% of its mass of acrylic monomers selected from acrylic acid and methacrylic acid, their esters with aliphatic alcohols having 1 to 10

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carbon atoms, their esters with aliphatic polyhydroxy compounds having 2 to 10 carbon atoms and at least two hydroxyl groups per molecule, and the nitriles of said acids.

- 9.(original) The aqueous amino resin composition as claimed in claim 8, wherein the ratio of the mass of the acrylic copolymer to the mass of the amino resin in the mixture is from 0 to 150:100.
- 10.(currently amended) ~~The~~ A method of use of the aqueous amino resin composition as claimed in claim 1 for comprising impregnating paper or cardboard with the said aqueous amino resin composition for use as finished foils or edgings.
- 11.(original) A finished foil or edging comprising cardboard or paper impregnated with the aqueous amino resin composition as claimed in claim 1.
- 12.(original) The finished foil or edging as claimed in claim 11, wherein the mass per unit area of the paper or cardboard following impregnation and subsequent drying is greater by a factor of from 1.3 to 2.5 than that of the substrate that is used.